

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

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Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

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a photographic lens ~~that is~~ provided on a camera body of ~~said the~~ digital camera ~~so that, the~~ photographic lens defining an optical axis of said photographic lens that is stationary with respect to ~~said the~~ camera body;

an image pick-up element on which an image ~~of an object~~ formed by ~~said the~~ photographic lens ~~is impinged~~ images, the image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in ~~said the~~ camera body, ~~wherein said~~ ~~tilting/swinging mechanism can cause at least one of tilting and swinging movement of said that~~ enables movement of the image pick-up element, relative to a plane orthogonal to said the optical axis, in at least two orthogonal planes such that the sensitive surface rotates about the intersection point.

Claims 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The digital camera according to claim 1, ~~wherein said the~~ ~~tilting/swinging mechanism comprises~~ comprising:

a mount to which ~~said the~~ image pick-up element is fixed, ~~said the~~ mount comprising a convex surface; and

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a base, fixed to ~~said~~ the camera body, ~~said base~~ comprising a concave surface having a radius of curvature corresponding to a radius of curvature of ~~said~~ the convex surface[[,]]; W  
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wherein ~~said~~ the mount is mounted on ~~said~~ the base ~~with said~~ such that the convex surface ~~being is~~ slidable on ~~said~~ the concave surface.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The digital camera according to claim 3, ~~wherein said~~ the tilting/swinging mechanism further ~~comprises~~ comprising an operation member ~~which is~~ fixed to ~~said~~ the mount so ~~that said mount can be moved~~, enabling movement of the mount relative to ~~said~~ the base ~~by operating said operation member~~.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The digital camera according to claim 1, ~~wherein said~~ the tilting/swinging mechanism ~~comprises~~ comprising:

a mount to which ~~said~~ the image pick-up element is fixed, ~~said~~ the mount comprising a convex spherical surface which defines a portion of a sphere having a center point coincident with ~~a point of the~~ intersection point between ~~said~~ the optical axis and a the sensitive surface of ~~said~~ the image pick-up element; and

a base, fixed to ~~said~~ the camera body, ~~said base~~ comprising a concave spherical surface having a radius of curvature corresponding to a radius of curvature of ~~said~~ the convex surface, the mount being mounted on the base such that the convex spherical surface is slidable on the concave spherical surface;

wherein a sliding movement of ~~said~~ the convex spherical surface on ~~said~~ the concave spherical surface causes ~~said~~ the sensitive surface of the image pick-up element to rotate about ~~said~~ point of the intersection point.

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Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The digital camera according to claim 5, further comprising an operation member ~~which is~~, fixed to ~~said the mount so that said mount can be moved~~, that enables movement of the mount relative to ~~said the~~ base ~~by operating said operation member~~.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A digital camera having a photographic lens and an image pick-up element, ~~said the~~ photographic lens being ~~provided on~~ attached to a camera body of ~~said the~~ digital camera ~~so such~~ that an optical axis of ~~said the~~ photographic lens is stationary with respect to ~~said the~~ camera body, an image of an object to be photographed ~~being impinged~~ impinging on ~~said the~~ image pick-up element through ~~said the~~ photographic lens, ~~said the~~ digital camera comprising:

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in ~~said the~~ camera body, ~~wherein said tilting/swinging mechanism can cause~~ configured to at least one of ~~tilting and swinging movement of tilt and swing~~ a sensitive surface of ~~said the~~ image pick-up element, in at least two orthogonal planes, relative to ~~a plane orthogonal to said the~~ optical axis,

wherein ~~said the~~ tilting/swinging mechanism comprises:

a movable member to which ~~said the~~ image pick-up element is fixed; and

a stationary member to which ~~said the~~ movable member is rotatably connected ~~so that said to enable the~~ movable member can to move relative to ~~said the~~ stationary member ~~so as to enable~~ at least one of ~~tilt tilting and swing said image pick-up element~~ swinging the sensitive surface relative to ~~said plane a point at which the sensitive surface intersects the optical axis~~.

Claim 8. (New) A digital camera comprising:

a photographing lens attached to a camera body, the photographing lens defining an optical axis that is stationary with respect to the camera body;

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an image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

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*over* a rotatable mount having the image pick-up element attached to one side and defining a convex spherical surface on an opposite side, a radius of the convex spherical surface being centered on the intersection point; and

a base, fixed to the camera body, defining a concave spherical surface that slidably cooperates with the convex spherical surface of the rotatable mount;

wherein movement of the rotatable mount with respect to the base rotates the sensitive surface around the intersection point.

Claim 9. (New) The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the intersection point is stationary with respect to the camera body.

Claim 10. (New) The digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the point at which the sensitive surface intersects the optical axis remains stationary with respect to the camera body.

Claim 11. (New) The digital camera according to claim 8, wherein the intersection point is stationary with respect to the camera body.

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